

City of Rockville Environment Commission

Watersheds Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 20, 2012

Mayor and Council Chambers, Rockville City Hall

7:15 pm

Meeting Attendance: Joe Arrowsmith, Julie Palakovich Carr, Steve Cardon, Shannon Philbin

1. Environment Commission Report

Julie Palakovich Carr reported:

- The Environment Commission did not have a quorum
- Special guest Eric Kaufman, Energy Planner with Montgomery County presented

2. Environmental Management Division Report

- The Rock Creek Watershed Study is being restructured to more clearly describe the watersheds characters, the City's efforts, and recommendations.
- On November 20, EMD held their annual retreat to prioritize projects.
- The cities website is going through a major redesign to be more user friendly and resident centered. The Watershed Committee may be asked for input on relevant pages.
- A special article on the Cities environmental accomplishments and a volunteer thank you will be going out in the December Rockville Reports edition.
- Hurricane Sandy seemed to cause scheduling issues for many Adopt A Stream groups and only 6 were held in the fall. Shannon will be contacting adopting groups that have not performed a cleanup in the past year.
- Seven volunteers participating the Save Our Stream Program this Fall. Shannon explained that there will be a possible restructuring of this program to give volunteers a better experience.

3. Review of October Stream Cleanup

- Overall the cleanup was successful, 13 people attended and cleaned up for 2 hours.
- Joe said the signs were very helpful, but that some community members didn't see the sign until after the event was over and he was taking them down. It might be helpful to place the signs up many weeks in advance.
- Joe noted that a large majority of plastic bags picked up are newspaper bags. Shannon noted that this is a common observance by other cleanup groups. It was discussed that an appeal could be made to the newspaper companies.

4. Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company (micro-grant) Discussion

- The Chesapeake Bay roasting company gives micro grants for small scale environmental projects in the area.

- The WC will look into additional outreach tools to supplement the watershed model or possibly purchasing another rain barrel to raffle off at an event.
- Shannon will send Steve resources for possible outreach tools.
- Steve will contact the CBRC representative.

5. Confirm December Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday December 11 at 7:15pm and will also include a review of the Rock Creek Watershed Study.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

The next Watersheds Committee meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 7:15 pm
in the Mayor and Council Chambers at Rockville City Hall
111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, 20850.